

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SPRADLING et al.

Appln. No. 09/358,937

Filed: July 23, 1999

FOR: METHOD FOR MAINTENANCE AND PROPAGATION OF GERMLINE
STEM CELLS USING MEMBERS OF THE TGF- β FAMILY OF GROWTH
FACTORS

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Group Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: J. Woitach

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August 14, 2001

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2001 (Paper No. 12),
entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully
requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly enter the following amended claim.

2. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said population is
maintained *in vivo* and a *Drosophila* containing the germline stem cells has been
genetically engineered to stimulate said signal transduction.